

BY WIRE VIA CAS

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE/EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY

December 2, 1969

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger

FOR: Ambassador Bunker

In view of Ambassador Lodge's remark about coalition government, the President and the Secretary of State have decided that you should take immediate measures that will leave no doubt in the minds of South Vietnamese politicians as to where we stand.

You should seek the earliest opportunity to see General Minh and Tran van Don and tell them that the U. S. will not countenance any activity designed to lead to the overthrow of the present government. Under no circumstances would we cooperate with any group which did not support the Thieu Government.

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You should seek out General Ky and convey to him the same thoughts. You should tell Thieu that you are carrying out the above instructions at the direction of the President and of the Secretary of State. You should continue pursuing your exploratory talks with Thieu on ceasefire but you should inform him that no offer is contemplated at this time.

At the President's request, I have furnished a copy of this message to the Secretary of State for his eyes only.

State Dept. review completed

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HAK:AMH:feg:12/1/69

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY